

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 L-03
INR-07 CIAE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IGA-02 H-01 ACDA-07
MC-02 EB-07 NSAE-00 /069 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:SGEIS:RF
APPROVED BY PM/SAS - DJJAMES
EUR/CE - R. CASAGRANDE
DOD/DSAA - G. RUDD

-----081533Z 079520 /40

R 070518Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 104762

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:MASS, AU

SUBJECT:M-60A3 TANK FOR AUSTRIA

REF: A) SECDEF MSG DTG 212245 APRIL 77
B) USDAO AUSTRIA MSG DTG 230853Z MAR 77

1. REFTEL A ADVISED USG HAD NO OBJECTION TO SALE OF M-60A3 TANK TO AUSTRIA. HOWEVER, SINCE THAT MESSAGE, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT BECAUSE OF THE CLASSIFICATION LEVEL OF NEW AND SENSITIVE EQUIPMENT IN THE A3 VERSION OF M-60, AN EXEMPTION TO NATIONAL DISCLOSURE POLICY WOULD BE REQUIRED IN ORDER FOR AUSTRIA TO RECEIVE A COMPLETE BRIEFING ON THE M-60A3.

2. AS YOU ARE AWARE, USG ARMS TRANSFER POLICY IS PRESENTLY CONFIDENTIAL

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UNDER REVIEW. ONE OF THE ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THAT REVIEW IS THE SALE OR TRANSFER OF FIRST LINE TECHNOLOGY WEAPONS SYSTEMS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES. PENDING COMPLETION OF THAT REVIEW, WE ARE UNABLE TO ADDRESS REQUESTS FOR EXCEPTIONS TO NATIONAL DISCLOSURE POLICY FOR NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS.

3. WE EXPECT COMPLETION OF REVIEW BY DATE OF THE AUSTRIANS'

ARRIVAL FOR SCHEDULED BRIEFING (MAY 22-27), BUT REQUEST YOU ADVISE THEM THAT THEY MAY WISH TO DELAY THE TRIP UNTIL

A) USG HAS AN ESTIMATE OF WHEN THE M-60A3 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR FOREIGN MILITARY SALES, AND B) ARMY IS AUTHORIZED TO FULLY BRIEF ON ALL M-60A3 SUBSYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT.

4. YOU MAY ALSO WISH TO POINT OUT TO THE AUSTRIANS THAT THE M-60A3 IS JUST ENTERING PRODUCTION AND US FORCE REQUIREMENTS HAVE FIRST PRIORITY, NATO AND OTHER TREATY ALLIES HAVE SECOND. THEREFORE, DELIVERIES TO OTHER FRIENDLY COUNTRIES WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE UNTIL US AND ALLIED INVENTORIES ARE FILLED. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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